

A. Context Statistics¹

General Child Population (Census Bureau)²

	2007	2008	2009	2010 ³
Total children under 18 years	4,081,907	4,070,878	4,057,773	X
Race/ethnicity (%) ⁴				
Alaska Native/ American Indian	0.3	0.3	0.3	X
Asian	2.3	2.2	2.4	X
Black	20.2	20.0	19.9	X
Native Hawaiian/ Other Pacific Islander	<.1	<.1	<.1	X
Hispanic (of any race)	24.9	25.3	26.4	X
White	49.9	49.6	48.4	X
Two or more races	2.3	2.4	2.5	X
Child population in poverty (%)	17.1	18.3	21.3	X

Child Welfare Summary⁵

	2007	2008	2009	2010
Child maltreatment victims	53,484	51,271	49,078	53,969
Foster care entry rate	4.6	3.9	3.4	3.5
Children in foster care on 9/30	26,759	22,149	19,446	18,865
Children adopted	3,089	3,870	3,735	3,372

Caseworker Visits for Children in Foster Care⁶

	2007	2008	2009	2010
Children receiving monthly visits (%)	85	90	92	90
Numerator	—	31,991	27,919	25,376
Denominator	—	35,663	30,492	28,060
Children receiving visits in the home (%)	94	97	97	98
Numerator	—	221,053	187,015	170,677
Denominator	—	226,864	192,586	175,012

B. Child Maltreatment Data (National Child Abuse and Neglect Data System [NCANDS])

Overview Maltreatment Information⁷

	2007		2008		2009		2010	
	Number	Rate	Number	Rate	Number	Rate	Number	Rate
Children subject of an investigated report alleging child maltreatment	343,836	84.2 per 1,000	374,276	91.9 per 1,000	339,289	83.6 per 1,000	332,469	81.9 per 1,000
Total child maltreatment victims ⁸	53,484	13.1 per 1,000	51,271	12.6 per 1,000	49,078	12.1 per 1,000	53,969	13.3 per 1,000
Child fatalities	153	3.7 per 100,000	185	4.5 per 100,000	156	3.8 per 100,000	180	4.4 per 100,000

Age of Child Victims (%)

	2007	2008	2009	2010
Under 1 year	13.6	14.1	13.3	13.5
1 year	8.2	8.7	9.2	8.9
2 years	7.5	7.9	8.6	8.7
3 years	6.8	7.1	7.4	7.8
4 years	6.3	6.5	6.6	6.7
5 years	6.2	6.2	6.3	6.3
6 years	5.8	5.9	5.5	5.8
7 years	5.8	5.3	5.3	5.1
8 years	5.0	4.9	5.1	4.8
9 years	4.7	4.5	4.3	4.8
10 years	4.3	4.3	4.1	4.3
11 years	4.1	4.0	4.0	3.7
12 years	4.0	3.6	3.7	3.8
13 years	3.9	3.7	3.6	3.5
14 years	4.2	3.8	3.5	3.5
15 years	3.8	3.8	3.7	3.4
16 years	3.5	3.3	3.2	3.0
17 years	2.3	2.2	2.4	2.3
18+ years	<.1	<.1	<.1	0.0
Missing data	0.1	0.3	0.2	0.2
Number	53,484	51,271	49,078	53,969

Race/Ethnicity of Child Victims (%)

	2007	2008	2009	2010
Alaska Native/ American Indian	0.2	0.3	0.3	0.2
Asian	0.3	0.4	0.4	0.4
Black	30.3	29.7	29.2	29.3
Native Hawaiian/ Other Pacific Islander	0.1	<.1	<.1	<.1
Hispanic (of any race)	14.8	13.9	15.1	16.8
White	51.7	51.5	50.4	48.5
Two or more races	2.1	2.3	3.0	3.2
Missing data	0.5	1.9	1.7	1.7
Number	53,484	51,271	49,078	53,969

¹ The source data for each table is indicated in parentheses for each section. A calendar year is the basis for data from the Census Bureau. Most other data on these pages are from the National Child Abuse and Neglect Data System (NCANDS) or the Adoption and Foster Care Analysis and Reporting System (AFCARS) and are based on the Federal fiscal year, October 1 through September 30.

² The total child population and data on race/ethnicity represent estimates from the Census Bureau and are available at <http://www.census.gov/popest/datasets.html>. Child poverty data are from the Census Bureau's American Community Survey (ACS).

³ The 2010 Census Bureau general child population estimates were not available for inclusion in this report; however, they will be included in the 2008–2011 report. All 2010 rate calculations use 2009 child population estimates.

⁴ For race/ethnicity tables, all races exclude children of Hispanic origin.

⁵ Data on child maltreatment victims are from NCANDS. Data on foster care entry rate, children in foster care on 9/30, and children adopted are from AFCARS. A child victim is defined as a child who is the subject of a maltreatment report for which the disposition is substantiated, indicated, or "alternative response victim." The rate for foster care entry is per 1,000 children in the State population. The 2010 foster care entry rate was calculated using 2009 child population estimates from the Census Bureau.

⁶ Caseworker visits were a new reporting requirement as of FY 2007. While submission of numerators and denominators was not a requirement for FY 2007, this information is included in the report when available. Some States elected to use an approved sampling procedure. For more information, please see appendix C.

⁷ The rate for maltreatment investigations and victims is per 1,000 children under age 18; for fatalities, the rate is per 100,000 children under age 18. The 2010 rates were calculated using 2009 child population estimates from the Census Bureau.

⁸ Children with more than one report of substantiated or indicated maltreatment may be counted more than once.

B. Child Maltreatment Data (NCANDS) Continued

Maltreatment Types of Child Victims (%)⁹

	2007	2008	2009	2010
Emotional abuse	1.4	1.3	1.3	1.3
Medical neglect	1.7	1.9	2.1	2.0
Neglect	51.0	49.4	49.3	51.1
Physical abuse	9.8	9.7	9.8	9.8
Sexual abuse	4.4	4.6	4.4	4.3
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Other	50.0	51.9	52.5	48.6
Number	53,484	51,271	49,078	53,969

Time to Investigation (in hours)

	2007	2008	2009	2010
Mean	8.8	12.3	10.7	10.7
Median	<24	<24	<24	<24

C. Characteristics of Children in Foster Care

(Adoption and Foster Care Analysis and Reporting System [AFCARS] Foster Care File)

Overview Foster Care Information

	In Foster Care on 10/1				Entered Foster Care				Exited Foster Care				In Foster Care on 9/30			
	2007	2008	2009	2010	2007	2008	2009	2010	2007	2008	2009	2010	2007	2008	2009	2010
Total number	28,566	25,232	21,689	19,024	18,582	15,764	13,821	14,207	20,390	18,848	16,064	14,366	26,759	22,149	19,446	18,865
Median length of stay (months)	10.5	11.9	12.2	11.0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	11.5	12.0	12.4	12.0	11.9	12.0	11.3	9.5

Age of Children in Foster Care (%)

	In Foster Care on 10/1				Entered Foster Care				Exited Foster Care				In Foster Care on 9/30			
	2007	2008	2009	2010	2007	2008	2009	2010	2007	2008	2009	2010	2007	2008	2009	2010
Under 1 year	7.9	8.0	7.5	8.2	19.0	19.0	19.0	18.8	5.1	5.2	4.7	5.3	7.9	7.6	8.0	8.5
1 year	9.2	9.6	9.8	9.5	8.6	8.5	9.2	8.9	9.2	9.4	10.0	9.7	9.5	9.8	9.7	9.7
2 years	8.1	8.2	8.3	8.6	7.4	7.4	8.2	8.4	8.8	9.5	9.7	9.6	8.3	8.4	8.8	9.0
3 years	6.9	7.0	6.9	7.0	6.5	6.9	6.9	7.7	8.3	8.1	7.9	8.2	6.9	7.0	7.2	7.7
4 years	6.0	6.0	6.1	6.2	5.7	6.0	6.1	6.1	6.6	7.0	7.0	7.2	6.0	6.1	6.2	6.6
5 years	5.6	5.2	5.2	5.6	5.7	5.4	5.4	5.6	6.6	6.0	6.0	6.3	5.3	5.2	5.5	5.3
6 years	5.3	5.0	4.9	4.8	5.3	5.3	4.8	5.1	5.9	5.5	5.5	5.6	5.0	4.9	4.7	5.1
7 years	4.6	4.9	4.7	4.2	4.8	4.7	4.4	4.5	5.3	5.5	5.4	4.9	4.9	4.7	4.2	4.3
8 years	4.6	4.4	4.3	4.0	4.2	4.3	4.2	4.2	5.0	4.7	4.6	4.6	4.4	4.3	4.1	4.2
9 years	4.2	4.0	4.1	4.0	4.0	3.7	3.8	3.8	4.3	4.3	4.2	4.1	4.1	4.1	3.9	3.8
10 years	3.7	4.0	3.7	3.8	3.7	3.5	3.5	3.6	3.7	4.1	4.0	3.9	4.0	3.7	3.8	3.6
11 years	3.8	3.7	3.5	3.6	3.5	3.2	3.2	3.0	3.6	3.7	3.4	3.5	3.6	3.5	3.5	3.5
12 years	4.1	3.7	3.6	3.5	3.4	3.3	3.3	3.2	3.8	3.2	3.1	3.2	3.7	3.6	3.5	3.3
13 years	4.5	4.0	3.7	3.9	3.7	3.5	3.4	3.3	3.6	3.2	2.9	3.0	4.0	3.7	3.9	3.7
14 years	4.9	4.9	4.4	4.2	4.2	3.9	3.5	3.4	3.6	3.5	3.1	3.0	4.9	4.5	4.1	4.2
15 years	5.6	5.4	5.6	5.2	4.1	4.4	4.1	3.6	3.5	3.4	3.1	2.8	5.4	5.6	5.2	4.7
16 years	5.5	6.0	6.4	6.4	3.8	4.2	3.9	3.9	3.4	3.5	3.3	3.1	6.0	6.4	6.4	5.9
17 years	5.4	5.8	7.0	7.3	2.4	2.9	3.0	2.8	9.5	5.9	3.2	8.2	5.7	6.9	7.2	6.8
18 years	<.1	<.1	<.1	<.1	0.0	0.0	<.1	0.0	0.3	4.3	8.7	3.8	0.3	<.1	<.1	0.2
19 years	<.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	<.1	<.1	<.1	<.1	<.1	<.1	0.0	0.0	<.1	<.1	<.1	<.1
20 years	<.1	<.1	0.0	0.0	<.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	<.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	<.1	0.0	0.0	0.0
Missing data	<.1	<.1	<.1	<.1	<.1	<.1	<.1	<.1	<.1	<.1	<.1	<.1	<.1	<.1	<.1	<.1

Race/Ethnicity of Children in Foster Care (%)¹⁰

	In Foster Care on 10/1				Entered Foster Care				Exited Foster Care				In Foster Care on 9/30			
	2007	2008	2009	2010	2007	2008	2009	2010	2007	2008	2009	2010	2007	2008	2009	2010
Alaska Native/ American Indian	0.1	0.2	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.4	0.4	0.3	0.1	0.2	0.3	0.4	0.2	0.3	0.3	0.2
Asian	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.3	0.2	0.1	0.2	0.2	0.1	0.2	0.2
Black	38.8	38.9	37.9	36.3	35.7	34.1	32.5	31.3	35.9	36.4	35.4	33.9	38.8	37.6	36.2	34.3
Native Hawaiian/ Other Pacific Islander	<.1	<.1	<.1	<.1	<.1	<.1	<.1	<.1	<.1	<.1	<.1	<.1	<.1	<.1	<.1	<.1
Hispanic (of any race)	10.8	11.6	12.2	13.5	11.7	13.2	13.1	13.8	11.0	12.1	12.4	13.4	11.2	12.3	12.7	13.8
White	47.3	46.0	45.9	45.4	49.3	48.2	49.3	49.3	50.0	47.8	48.1	47.6	46.7	46.1	46.5	46.7
Two or more races	2.5	2.8	3.3	4.0	2.3	3.4	3.9	4.7	2.3	2.8	3.4	4.2	2.6	3.2	3.6	4.4
Unknown	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.3	0.5	0.5	0.4	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.2	0.3	0.3	0.3
Missing data	0.0	0.0	<.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	<.1	<.1	0.0	0.0	<.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	<.1	<.1

⁹ Percentages may total more than 100 because children can be victims of more than one type of maltreatment.

¹⁰ All races exclude children of Hispanic origin.

D. Characteristics of Children Waiting for Adoption¹¹ (AFCARS Foster Care File)

Children Waiting for Adoption	2007	2008	2009	2010
Total waiting children	7,819	7,927	6,655	4,999
Number of waiting children whose parents' rights have been terminated	4,243	4,764	3,544	2,752

Age of Children Waiting for Adoption (%)¹²

	2007	2008	2009	2010
Under 1 year	3.4	3.8	3.6	3.3
1 year	8.7	9.9	8.8	8.7
2 years	9.0	9.2	8.9	8.6
3 years	7.4	7.5	7.8	7.3
4 years	6.4	6.6	6.9	6.2
5 years	5.2	5.5	6.1	5.6
6 years	5.3	5.3	4.9	5.1
7 years	5.3	5.1	4.3	3.9
8 years	4.6	4.7	4.5	4.4
9 years	4.5	4.6	4.8	4.1
10 years	4.4	4.1	4.7	4.6
11 years	4.2	4.3	4.3	4.5
12 years	4.6	4.3	4.4	4.4
13 years	4.8	4.5	4.7	4.8
14 years	5.8	4.7	5.0	5.5
15 years	5.7	5.4	5.2	5.8
16 years	6.0	5.2	5.8	6.2
17 years	4.7	5.2	5.3	7.1

Race/Ethnicity of Children Waiting for Adoption (%)¹³

	2007	2008	2009	2010
Alaska Native/American Indian	<.1	0.1	0.2	0.1
Asian	0.2	0.1	<.1	0.2
Black	40.1	39.4	39.6	38.9
Native Hawaiian/ Other Pacific Islander	0.1	<.1	<.1	<.1
Hispanic (of any race)	10.5	11.8	11.8	12.5
White	45.5	44.9	44.5	43.4
Two or more races	3.3	3.3	3.6	4.7
Unknown	0.3	0.2	0.3	0.1
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

E. Characteristics of Children Adopted (AFCARS Adoption File)

Children Adopted	2007	2008	2009	2010
Total children adopted	3,089	3,870	3,735	3,372

Age of Children Adopted (%)

	2007	2008	2009	2010
Under 1 year	2.6	2.7	2.7	2.8
1 year	12.0	12.0	12.5	12.0
2 years	13.8	16.0	15.4	13.8
3 years	13.5	11.2	11.7	10.9
4 years	8.8	9.7	8.3	9.0
5 years	7.9	7.3	7.4	7.9
6 years	6.7	6.5	6.7	6.9
7 years	5.4	5.6	5.8	5.6
8 years	5.2	5.0	4.9	5.0
9 years	4.2	3.9	4.0	4.1
10 years	3.5	3.8	3.9	4.8
11 years	3.4	3.3	3.5	3.8
12 years	2.5	2.7	2.6	2.8
13 years	2.9	2.3	2.4	2.8
14 years	2.5	2.5	2.4	2.3
15 years	1.9	2.4	2.1	1.8
16 years	1.7	1.9	2.0	2.0
17 years	1.2	1.1	1.6	1.6
18 years	0.1	0.2	0.1	0.2
19 years	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
20 years	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

Race/Ethnicity of Children Adopted (%)

	2007	2008	2009	2010
Alaska Native/American Indian	0.2	<.1	<.1	0.1
Asian	0.3	0.2	0.1	0.1
Black	28.9	32.4	31.1	32.6
Native Hawaiian/ Other Pacific Islander	0.0	0.0	0.1	<.1
Hispanic (of any race)	10.5	10.8	11.0	13.6
White	56.4	52.5	53.2	48.6
Two or more races	3.5	3.6	4.2	4.5
Unknown	0.2	0.4	0.3	0.3
Missing data	0.0	<.1	0.0	0.0

¹¹ There is no Federal definition for a child waiting to be adopted. The definition used in the tables on this page includes children and youth through age 17 who have a goal of adoption and/or whose parents' parental rights have been terminated. It excludes children 16 years old and older whose parents' parental rights have been terminated and who have a goal of emancipation. A State's own definition may differ from that used here.

¹² Children older than 17 years fall outside of the definition used to identify waiting children and are therefore excluded from this table.

¹³ For race/ethnicity tables, all races exclude children of Hispanic origin.

1. Reduce Recurrence of Child Abuse and/or Neglect (NCANDS)

1.1 Recurrence of Maltreatment Within 6 Months (%)

	2007	2008	2009	2010
Children without a recurrence	94.4	93.5	93.0	92.8
Children with one or more recurrences	5.6	6.5	7.0	7.2
Number	26,409	24,015	22,992	25,320

2. Reduce the Incidence of Child Abuse and/or Neglect in Foster Care (NCANDS and AFCARS Foster Care File)

2.1 Maltreatment in Foster Care (%)

	2007	2008	2009	2010
Children maltreated while in foster care	1.15	1.34	0.33	0.82
Children not maltreated while in foster care	98.85	98.66	99.67	99.18
Number	47,148	40,996	35,510	33,231

3. Increase Permanency for Children in Foster Care (AFCARS Foster Care File)

3.1 Exits of Children From Foster Care (%)

	2007	2008	2009	2010
Adoption	14.9	20.5	21.7	23.2
Guardianship	20.0	25.2	24.0	24.1
Reunification	55.8	46.4	45.0	43.1
Other	7.4	7.9	9.3	9.6
Missing data	1.9	0.1	<.1	0.0
Number	20,390	18,848	16,064	14,366

3.2 Exits of Children With a Diagnosed Disability (%)

	2007	2008	2009	2010
Adoption	35.4	36.8	42.6	58.8
Guardianship	11.3	14.4	10.9	8.7
Reunification	33.3	26.8	22.2	13.4
Other	18.3	21.8	24.1	19.1
Missing data	1.8	0.2	0.1	0.0
Number	1,883	1,437	1,371	1,422

3.3 Exits of Children Older Than Age 12 at Entry Into Foster Care (%)

	2007	2008	2009	2010
Adoption	2.5	4.1	3.9	4.3
Guardianship	18.8	25.0	21.2	21.0
Reunification	46.4	38.2	35.8	33.8
Other	29.9	32.2	39.1	40.9
Missing data	2.3	0.5	0.0	0.0
Number	3,632	3,266	2,821	2,524

3.4 Exits to Emancipation (%)

	2007	2008	2009	2010
Children age 12 or younger at entry	26.3	28.3	25.4	23.8
Children older than 12 at entry	73.3	71.5	74.5	76.2
Missing data	0.3	0.1	<.1	0.0
Number	1,317	1,434	1,472	1,347

3.5 Exits by Race/Ethnicity (%)¹⁴

	Alaska Native/Am. Indian					Asian					Black			
	2007	2008	2009	2010		2007	2008	2009	2010		2007	2008	2009	2010
Adoption	22.2	6.4	4.1	7.7	16.9	14.9	21.1	12.1		12.0	18.1	19.1	22.4	
Guardianship	7.4	44.7	18.4	34.6	13.6	4.3	31.6	18.2		21.8	27.5	25.2	23.2	
Reunification	33.3	48.9	69.4	51.9	61.0	72.3	42.1	60.6		54.8	44.3	43.2	41.7	
Other	37.0	0.0	8.2	5.8	8.5	8.5	5.3	9.1		9.4	10.0	12.4	12.8	
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0		2.0	0.1	<.1	0.0	
Number	27	47	49	52	59	47	19	33		7,328	6,858	5,682	4,876	

	Native Hawaiian/Other Pac. Is.					Hispanic (of any race)					White			
	2007	2008	2009	2010		2007	2008	2009	2010		2007	2008	2009	2010
Adoption	0.0	0.0	44.4	75.0	14.3	18.6	19.7	23.4		16.8	22.5	23.8	23.8	
Guardianship	22.2	33.3	0.0	0.0	15.6	18.9	19.7	18.2		19.9	25.4	24.2	26.6	
Reunification	55.6	66.7	33.3	25.0	60.6	55.4	52.1	49.5		55.5	45.3	44.2	41.6	
Other	11.1	0.0	22.2	0.0	7.7	7.0	8.5	8.9		5.9	6.7	7.8	8.1	
Missing data	11.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	1.7	<.1	0.0	0.0		1.9	0.2	<.1	0.0	
Number	9	6	9	4	2,250	2,276	1,986	1,929		10,201	9,018	7,721	6,833	

	Unable to Determine					Two or More Races					Missing Data			
	2007	2008	2009	2010		2007	2008	2009	2010		2007	2008	2009	2010
Adoption	13.7	25.0	24.5	23.1	22.6	26.3	25.9	24.8		0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	
Guardianship	13.7	11.7	20.8	12.8	17.8	19.6	24.6	21.8		0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	
Reunification	66.7	56.7	49.1	53.8	54.2	49.3	46.5	48.8		0.0	0.0	100.0	0.0	
Other	3.9	6.7	5.7	10.3	4.7	4.9	2.8	4.5		0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	
Missing data	2.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.6	0.0	0.2	0.0		0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	
Number	51	60	53	39	465	536	544	600		0	0	1	0	

¹⁴ All races exclude children of Hispanic origin.

4. Reduce Time to Reunification Without Increasing Reentry (AFCARS Foster Care File)

4.1 Time to Reunification (%)

	2007	2008	2009	2010
Less than 12 mos.	69.8	71.1	71.3	73.8
At least 12 mos., but less than 24 mos.	22.8	21.3	20.8	20.7
At least 24 mos., but less than 36 mos.	4.7	5.0	5.1	3.7
At least 36 mos., but less than 48 mos.	1.6	1.2	1.8	1.0
48 or more mos.	1.0	0.9	1.0	0.8
Missing data	0.2	0.5	0.2	0.0
Number	11,383	8,738	7,227	6,191

4.2 Children Reentering Foster Care (%)

	2007	2008	2009	2010
Children entering care for the first time	78.0	72.7	75.2	76.5
Children reentering care within 12 mos. of a prior episode	9.9	11.3	9.3	8.3
Children reentering care more than 12 mos. after a prior episode	9.7	13.8	14.7	14.5
Missing data	2.4	2.1	0.8	0.7
Number	18,582	15,764	13,821	14,207

5. Reduce Time in Foster Care to Adoption (AFCARS Foster Care File)

5.1 Time to Adoption (%)

	2007	2008	2009	2010
Less than 12 mos.	9.1	10.5	9.3	11.2
At least 12 mos. but less than 24 mos.	30.0	32.3	31.5	32.5
At least 24 mos. but less than 36 mos.	28.1	30.3	30.7	27.7
At least 36 mos. but less than 48 mos.	16.1	14.0	15.6	14.3
48 or more mos.	16.5	12.4	12.8	14.4
Missing data	0.3	0.5	0.1	0.0
Number	3,036	3,859	3,481	3,333

6. Increase Placement Stability (AFCARS Foster Care File)

6.1 Number of Placements by Time in Care (%)

	In Care Less Than 12 Months				In Care at Least 12 Months but Less Than 24 Months				In Care for 24 Months or Longer				Missing Time in Care			
	2007	2008	2009	2010	2007	2008	2009	2010	2007	2008	2009	2010	2007	2008	2009	2010
Children with 2 or fewer placements	82.1	82.7	84.9	85.1	61.7	60.4	60.8	63.6	31.8	31.9	30.5	28.2	95.1	96.3	96.8	98.3
Children with 3 or more placements	17.1	16.2	14.7	14.5	38.2	39.5	39.0	36.4	68.2	68.1	69.3	71.6	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Missing placement setting counts	0.8	1.1	0.4	0.4	<.1	<.1	0.1	<.1	<.1	<.1	0.2	0.1	4.9	3.7	3.2	1.7
Number	24,311	20,437	17,898	18,056	12,008	10,175	8,495	7,768	10,788	10,303	9,086	7,347	41	81	31	60

7. Reduce Placement of Young Children in Group Homes or Institutions (AFCARS Foster Care File)

7.1 Most Recent Placement Settings of Children Who Entered Care During the Fiscal Year and Were Age 12 or Younger at the Time of This Placement (%)

	2007	2008	2009	2010
Group homes	2.0	2.4	2.7	3.7
Institutions	4.8	3.5	1.6	1.2
Other settings	93.2	94.1	95.7	95.1
Missing data	<.1	0.0	<.1	0.0
Number	15,120	12,749	11,292	11,748

Composite and Individual Measures Established for the Federal Child and Family Services Reviews¹⁵ (AFCARS Foster Care File)

Composite 1: Timeliness and Permanency of Reunification¹⁶

	2007	2008	2009	2010
Composite Score¹⁷	115.8	113.4	111.5	115.3
C1.1: Of all children discharged from foster care to reunification during the year who had been in care for 8 days or longer, what percentage were reunified in less than 12 months from the date of the latest removal from home? (Includes trial home visit adjustment)	68.4	69.7	69.5	72.3
C1.2: Of all children discharged from foster care to reunification during the year who had been in care for 8 days or longer, what was the median length of stay (in months) from the date of the latest removal from home until the date of discharge to reunification? (Includes trial home visit adjustment)	8.7	8.1	8.0	7.9
C1.3: Of all children who entered foster care for the first time in the 6-month period just prior to the year shown, and who remained in care for 8 days or longer, what percentage were discharged from foster care to reunification in less than 12 months from the date of the latest removal from home? (Includes trial home visit adjustment)	42.1	38.3	37.9	36.8
C1.4: Of all children discharged from foster care to reunification in the 12-month period prior to the year shown, what percentage reentered care in less than 12 months from the date of discharge?	12.1	13.2	15.1	14.1

Composite 2: Timeliness of Adoptions

	2007	2008	2009	2010
Composite Score	124.8	139.1	139.2	141.4
C2.1: Of all children discharged from foster care to a finalized adoption during the year, what percentage were discharged in less than 24 months from the date of the latest removal from home?	39.2	43.0	40.8	43.6
C2.2: Of all children discharged from foster care to a finalized adoption during the year, what was the median length of stay in care (in months) from the date of latest removal from the home to the date of discharge to adoption?	27.6	26.4	26.9	26.0
C2.3: Of all children in foster care on the first day of the year who were in care for 17 continuous months or longer (and who, by the last day of the year, were not discharged from foster care with a discharge reason of reunification, living with relative, or guardianship), what percentage were discharged from foster care to a finalized adoption by the last day of the year?	23.9	29.1	30.9	33.1
C2.4: Of all children in foster care on the first day of the year who were in care for 17 continuous months or longer, and who were not legally free for adoption prior to that day (i.e., there was not a parental rights termination date reported to AFCARS for both mother and father), what percentage became legally free for adoption during the first 6 months of the year? ¹⁸	14.0	19.1	15.8	11.8
C2.5: Of all children who became legally free for adoption in the 12-month period prior to the year shown (i.e., there was a parental rights termination date reported to AFCARS for both mother and father), what percentage were discharged from foster care to a finalized adoption in less than 12 months from the date of becoming legally free?	60.4	61.4	65.8	66.7

Composite 3: Achieving Permanency for Children in Foster Care for Long Periods of Time¹⁹

	2007	2008	2009	2010
Composite Score	125.5	128.5	126.7	129.0
C3.1: Of all children in foster care for 24 months or longer on the first day of the year, what percentage were discharged to a permanent home prior to their 18th birthday and by the end of the year?	31.7	35.0	36.7	36.3
C3.2: Of all children discharged from foster care during the year, and who were legally free for adoption at the time of discharge (i.e., there was a parental rights termination date reported to AFCARS for both mother and father), what percentage were discharged to a permanent home prior to their 18th birthday?	91.6	92.5	90.7	91.9
C3.3: Of all children who, during the year shown, either (1) were discharged from foster care prior to age 18 with a discharge reason of emancipation, or (2) reached their 18th birthday while in foster care, what percentage were in foster care for 3 years or longer?	43.3	43.7	44.4	43.8

Composite 4: Placement Stability While in Foster Care²⁰

	2007	2008	2009	2010
Composite Score	92.0	92.1	93.3	94.0
C4.1: Of all children served in foster care during the year who were in care for at least 8 days but less than 12 months, what percentage had two or fewer placement settings?	82.2	83.0	84.7	85.0
C4.2: Of all children served in foster care during the year who were in care for at least 12 months but less than 24 months, what percentage had two or fewer placement settings?	61.8	60.5	60.9	63.6
C4.3: Of all children served in foster care during the year who were in care for at least 24 months, what percentage had two or fewer placement settings?	31.7	31.9	30.6	28.2

¹⁵ Individual measure performance is shown under each composite unless the State did not provide the data necessary to calculate those measures.

¹⁶ Calculation of measures C1.1, C1.2, and C1.3 include a trial home visit adjustment. For these measures, if a child was reunified with a final placement type of "trial home visit," any length of time in the trial home visit beyond 30 days is excluded from the length of stay calculation done by ACF. In addition, only children in care for at least 8 days are included in these measures.

¹⁷ Detailed information on how the individual measures are combined to form the composites is provided in the Federal Register Announcement published by the Department of Health and Human Services on the Children's Bureau website at http://www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/cb/cwmonitoring/legislation/fed_reg.htm

¹⁸ Legally free means that there was a parental rights termination date reported to AFCARS for both mother and father. This calculation excludes children who, by the end of the first 6 months of the fiscal year, had discharged from foster care to reunification, living with relative, or guardianship.

¹⁹ A permanent home is defined as having a discharge reason of adoption, guardianship, or reunification (including living with relative).

²⁰ The "served" population refers to all children who were in the public foster care system during the year. This number is the sum of two mutually exclusive groups of children: the children who are already in care on the first day of the fiscal year (as of October 1) and the children who enter foster care during the year. An individual child is counted only once for each year.

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The following are Florida's comments on the State data presented in *Child Welfare Outcomes 2007–2010: Report to Congress*.

One major factor affects Florida's performance on the outcomes measured during the time period covered by this report. In October 2006 Florida implemented a statewide Title IV-E Waiver Demonstration Project, allowing federal Title IV-E foster care funds to be used more broadly than would have otherwise been possible to promote child safety, prevent entry into the child welfare system and placement into foster care, and to expedite permanency. As a result, during the period covered by this report Florida reduced the number of children in foster care by approximately 36%.

Section A: Child Welfare Summary table: As noted above, this shows Florida's success in reducing the number of children in foster care.

Section B: Overview Maltreatment Information table: Florida investigates all allegations of child fatalities due to abuse or neglect, including drowning, unsafe sleep, and situations where there are no surviving siblings in the home. Some other states do not investigate these types of fatalities. In Florida between 2008 and 2010, approximately half of child fatalities due to abuse or neglect involved drowning or unsafe sleep.

Maltreatment Types of Child Victims table: Florida implemented a new policy in September 2009 which reduced the use of the allegation of "Threatened Harm." Since "Threatened Harm" maps to the NCANDS Maltreatment Type of "Other," this change may explain the majority of the reduction in the percentage of maltreatments categorized as "Other" between 2009 and 2010.

Section C: As noted above, Section C shows Florida's success in reducing the number of children in foster care. This reduction also explains why the number of children who exited foster care has declined.

Section D: The decline in the number of children waiting for adoption is largely explained by the reduction in the number of children in foster care and reduction in the time to adoption.

Composite Measures: Florida continues to show positive trends on three of the four CFSR composite measures.

C1.3: Declining scores on measure C1.3 are likely due to Florida's improvements in family preservation practices and programs. Florida's emphasis on family preservation has reduced the number of children removed from the home, thereby reducing the proportion of children removed from the home for whom reunification is the appropriate permanency goal.

C2.4: During FY 2009 and 2010, data on termination of parental rights were incomplete, in part due to implementation of changes to Florida's SACWIS. In FY 2009, 4.1% of the adoption discharges were missing TPR dates for at least one parent, and in FY 2010, 4.6% were missing TPR dates. This may explain the declining performance on this measure.